

To: Laidlaw, Tina[Laidlaw.Tina@epa.gov]
From: Skubinna, Paul
Sent: Fri 2/20/2015 9:59:30 PM
Subject: RE: Whitefish Notes from Nutrient Workgroup Meeting

Thanks, these are interesting tid-bits.

Paul Skubinna

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From: Laidlaw, Tina [mailto:Laidlaw.Tina@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2015 11:29 AM
To: Weaver, Christine; Suplee, Mike; LaVigne, Paul; Skubinna, Paul
Cc: Kusnierz, Lisa
Subject: Whitefish Notes from Nutrient Workgroup Meeting

In looking at some MT nutrient workgroup notes, I can across these comments re. Whitefish. Thought you guys might want to see them. I've attached the workgroup notes as well.

Question - Are there Montana communities on addition to Whitefish that use a lagoon system followed by mechanical treatment for phosphorus?

Answer - Whitefish is the only one.

Comment - In addition to reducing ammonia, communities must meet the nitrate human health standard.

Response - I believe that nitrates are already subject to a water quality standard, but I will check existing statutes to be sure. (Note: This is in fact the case; the human health standard of 10 mg NO₃-N/L and 1 mg NO₂-N/L apply.)

Question - If a community uses mechanical treatment for phosphorus, will it be pushed into meeting the 10 milligrams per liter (mg/l) nitrogen standard if the numeric nutrient criteria are adopted?

Answer - Yes. The long-term goal is to meet the water quality standards. Communities using mechanical treatment for phosphorus will need a plan to implement mechanical or biological control for nitrogen as well.